	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/695,102	JARMAN, MATTHEW
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ngoc K. Vu	2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to <u>9/27/04</u>.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-7,9-15,17,33-36 and 38-41</u>.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on <u>23 October 2000</u> are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date <u>9/27/04, 10/7/04, 10/15/04, 11/9/04</u>

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

Ngoc K. Vu
Examiner
Art Unit: 2611

Allowable Subject Matter

1.   The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The present invention is directed to automatically identifying and filtering portions of multimedia content during the decoding process. The closest prior art, Ostrover (US 6,351,596 B1) discloses a method and system for content control of broadcast programs. Particularly, when a program is broadcast and stored on the hard disks, simultaneously an associated file is generated and stored. This file characterizes individual scenes in accordance with the respective tagged codes. The file includes data from which the starting and ending points of individual scenes can be determined. During play of a stored program, the system consults the stored user preferences and the previously generated file to determine scenes to be skipped. However, Ostrover does not teach or suggest the features of the server system performs the acts of creating an object store that includes a plurality of navigation objects, each of which defines a portion of the multimedia content that is to be filtered by defining a start position and a stop position and a specific filtering action to be performed on the portion of the multimedia content defined by the start and stop positions for that portion; sending the one or more navigation objects to the consumer system for processing, whereby the consumer system filters the multimedia content by activating the filtering action for each portion of the multimedia content defined by the start and stop positions of each navigation object, resulting in the exclusion of each portion of the multimedia content defined by the one or more navigation objects; sending a representation of the one or more navigation objects to the consumer system, the representation including a description of the one or more navigation objects; disabling the at least one of the one or more navigation objects such that the filtering action assigned by the at least one of the one or more navigation objects is ignored as recited in claims 1, 9, 33 and 38.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ngoc K. Vu whose telephone number is 703-306-5976. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Grant can be reached on 703-305-4755. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ngoc K. Vu
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Art Unit 2611

January 7, 2005